



Mike Anderson Memorial

Striking Miss rides to victory

4



Another closure

Zeller's will be no longer in December

5



Dancers compete in Las Vegas

get it
online
www.forterietimes.com

All aboard!



KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Joel Truckenbott holds a scale model of the S.S. Canadiana last Saturday at Crystal Beach. The local resident spent years working on the vessel that many history lovers came out to see at the beach.



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THE NATIONAL JUDGES LIKED FORT ERIE

Very positive comments were heard at a deliberating meeting Tuesday, July 31. Special recognition was given to the Point Abino lighthouse restoration. They climbed to the top to enjoy the view from the 95-foot height of the near century-old concrete structure originally built of wood. A well deserved applause was heard for the outstanding floral display in Crystal Beach by the Crystal Beach Beautification Committee. The Niagara Parks Commission was recognized for the new Visitors Centre at Old Fort Erie. The good improvements made at Fort Erie Museum were not missed in their observations. Yes, the National Judges left us with that "good feeling" hoping for top results in the competition.

Judge Evelyn Allemanni said that we are lucky to live here. "It's beautiful- you have water on so many sides, beautiful forests, happy people and pretty gardens. It's just a beautiful place," were her warm and encouraging comments. Judge Jim Baird said "Niagara Parkway was their first impression and it was a good one. It was beautiful."

The Judges offered these and other very good comments on the Cogeco interview. Here is the link:

<http://www.twogeco.com/niagara/gallery/the-source/5418-july-source-stories>

Obviously, the Judges were impressed by Fort Erie's floral displays, efforts towards heritage and cultural preservation. They saw evidence of strong community involvement in making Fort Erie a beautiful and better place.

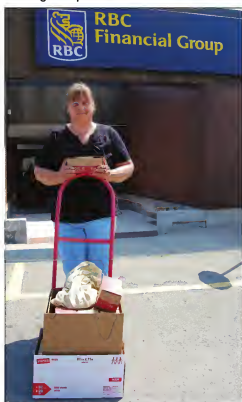
Two hundred people attended the War of 1812 themed Awards Gala that recognized the efforts of the entire community. Two soldiers greeted all at the door and appropriately costumed Masters of Ceremony, government and council representatives, and committee members added to the 1812 theme. Despite the hot weather this year, there were more recipients of awards during the program- how encouraging after all the planning, watering, and watering. A special thank you goes to Rosal Langdon Hardware in Ridgeway who donated white spruce seedlings for everyone.

New this year was an enjoyable Kids in Bloom program. Children from age 2 to 14 amazed the judges who visited their gardens and marvelled at their creations of clean, colorful projects. Also, they described the steps they took to produce their creations and named the many different plants and flowers. The accomplishments of the St. George's School Grade 3 students in completing raised bed gardens is an excellent example of the positive results for the community when teachers, parents and students work together to provide fresh vegetable for those in need. We saw some star gardeners in the show. Prizes featuring garden whirligigs, gardening tools and a framed photo were presented as "Good Gardening Awards."

Please watch for the 2012 Awards List and "Thank You" in the advertisement in the Shopping Times. Anyone who enters the Local Competition is a winner having shown how proud you are about your property and the effort you make to keep it beautiful. Congratulations to all.



Making a deposit



KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Mandy Crosby, from Community Outreach Program Erie, deposits over \$650 in pennies collected by the local food bank. In just over a month, about \$1,000 has been donated in small change and it is hoped this will continue to grow.



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Theft from cars a frequent crime

Kris Dubé
Fort Erie Times

Theft from unlocked vehicles is the most frequent crime taking place in Fort Erie, says Niagara Regional Police (NRP) district no. 5 staff sergeant Dave Hunter.

Other serious thefts that take place involve scrap metal and the illegal removal of manhole covers.

Not only is this stealing but it also creates a serious safety issue for the rest of the law abiding public.

"People should consider the danger they're putting others in with those kinds of thefts," said Hunter.

He also warns that residents should be careful when keeping valuable items in their vehicles like computers and cameras, especially in plain sight for thieves.

"If these items are left in view, they're an easy target."

There is no data that can calculate how many thefts are taking place by criminals whose primary motive is feeding a drug addiction, but Hunter says there

is a connection.

"There are people out there stealing and committing crimes to feed a habit," he said.

Hunter admits there is plenty of illegal drug use in Greater Fort Erie, citing marijuana, prescription drugs and even heroin as the products of choice for many users.

But he wanted to stress that Fort Erie is no different than other municipalities in Niagara. Drugs are an issue across the board.

"The number of people using drugs is quite high, but it's a problem everywhere," said Hunter.

Overall, he said the amount of crime in town is rather consistent in 2012 compared to other years.

"There are no noticeable spikes."

Hunter and the NRP want to encourage the public to play its role in making the community a more safe place to live and work, by contacting them if they see or hear something suspicious.

"The public has to help by reporting incidents when they happen," said Hunter.

"Don't think it's too trivial to report."



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Striking Miss hits target in Mike Anderson Memorial

After a roller coaster of issues, Striking Miss a five-year-old mare by Smart Strike, took this year's edition of the Mike Anderson Memorial in style.

Trained by John Simms for owner Tony Gaito, the mare was purchased last winter from Toronto for a winter campaign at Tampa Bay. After a win in her first start, she finished second in late December, Simms caught wind of a possibly claim

in her next race.

"I had to protect her by running her a bit over her head but she performed well," said the trainer.

When she shipped to Fort Erie this spring the mare became ill and had to take some time off before starting back to serious training but that was halted as well.

"She ended up with a puss pocket in her foot and had to take another break"

Simms was finally able

to get Striking Miss ready but time was running out to get her eligible for a Cup races at Fort Erie. In order to participate in a Cup event a horse must have started at Fort Erie Race Track two times or more.

"We had to run her against the boys to get her into the Princess Cup (held on Prince of Wales Day) and she ran a game second," said Simms.

The pace was set by Alamanda Drive and Time

Sharing who battled it out for the lead setting an opening quarter of 22.1 and a half of 45 seconds flat.

"I knew there was going to be speed to chase and my mare ran big," said jockey Martin Ramirez.

He positioned his horse four lengths off the front runners before making his move at the top of the stretch.

Striking Miss quickly grabbed the lead and pulled away from the field

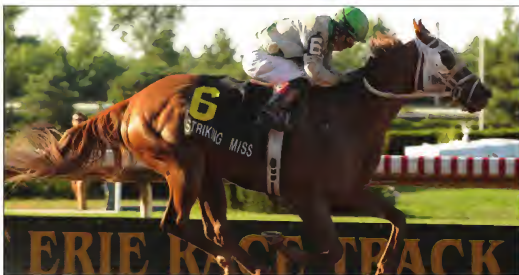
to win by eight lengths in a final time of 1:42.4 for the distance of one mile and a sixteenth.

Striking Miss returned \$7,600 to win. Finishing second was Grace by Moonlight and Time Sharing was third.

Mike Anderson spent a lot of time at the track as

a teenager, before moving up the ranks at Canadian Power. He was a life-long member of the Fort Erie Kinsmen Club and served two terms as a local councillor.

Tragically, Anderson died in a plane crash in 2003.



Striking Miss, ridden by Martin Ramirez, was the first to finish in the Mike Anderson Memorial during the sixth of a nine-race card this past Tuesday.



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Thoroughbreds and quarter horses mixing it up at Racetrack

Fort Erie Race Track featured its second mixed card of the season with four Quarter Horse races and eight thoroughbred races. For the quarter horses, the Peace Bridge Stakes at 870 yards and the Battle of the Breeds at 440 yards were featured. For the thoroughbreds, the Bob Summers Memorial Cup was run at six furlongs.

The \$35,000 added Peace Bridge Stakes was won with authority by My Big City

Lights, an Oklahoma bred gelding by Holland Ease out of Hatfield's Choice. Ridden by Alberta-based jockey Scott Sterr, the winner led a spread out field, with Special Ela finishing second followed by Attaboy Fly in third. Sterr was not to be riding for trainer Jeff Burgess, who was an assistant to Clinton Crawford last year. Crawford owns My Big City Lights and shipped the horse 24 hours from Oklahoma, confident that the horse (and

the trailer) had the gas to go the distance. My Big City Light returned \$5,200 to win.

The \$35,000 added Battle of the Breeds race attracted one Thoroughbred entry, and eight of Ontario's fastest

Quarter Horses. Lookingforagoodtime hung on by a nose to defeat Fast Flung Floyd and A Plain Brown Rapper in a tight finish. The winner, owned by Ivy Lane Racing and trained by Renee Wilson, a Texas bred gelding by Furotothewindoutof Dreams for Lundy, who was thrilled, "This was one of my biggest wins. The horse doesn't normally break good, but the jockey (Daniel Rose) deserves a lot of credit, he's done a great job with him at the gate." The race firms up the leading position for Ivy Lane Racing in the Ontario Leading Owner standings. Lookingforagoodtime returned \$40.20 to his backers.

See Page 19

Best in Show



KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Tom Fraas, a resident of Florida, talks to the Fort Erie Racetrack's Allison Walker during this week's Twilight Tuesday 'Show Party' race card, where race fans choose horses that will finish in the top three spots of each race.

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by Alison Heller, M.D., Sc.D.
Neurologist by CMC-PO
Doctor in Audiology, Audiologist
HOW BABY'S HEARING DEVELOPS

In the best reason why pregnant women talk to their unborn children. Fetal hearing reportedly responds to loud noises about seven weeks before birth. After delivery, once born, they seem to be quite sensitive to the location, frequency, pitch, and volume of sounds. During the second month of life, babies are more attuned to a wide range of sounds, particularly medium-range sounds which seem to soothe them. However, infants can hear higher frequencies than adults, which largely accounts for why adults speak to them in high-pitched voices. By age six months, babies can discriminate among different speech sounds and detect a wide array of pitches. At the point, babies will look around to see which end noises is coming from.

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Zeller's will close its doors in December of this year

➤ Most stores have about 100 employees

Dan Dakin
QMI Agency

The Zellers brand will no longer exist by the end of March 2013.

But what that means for the approximately 100 employees of the Niagara Falls location remains to be seen.

A spokeswoman for the Hudson's Bay Company, which owns the Zellers brand, said Thursday afternoon "most" of the 64 remaining stores will close by the end of March. Last year, U.S.-brand Target announced it was buying the lease agreements for 189 Zellers locations.

Tiffany Bourre said she couldn't say specifically what would happen with the Zellers store on Morrison St. because there's a chance some of the stores could become rebranded.

"Zellers has decided not to operate most of its remaining stores beyond 2013," she said. "We are considering options for certain locations, which would mean certain stores would stay open for a re-saleable future, but this would be determined at a later date."

The news, however, is far worse for the Fort Erie Zellers, located inside the struggling County Fair Mall as it will close before the end

of the year.

"That store is scheduled to close Dec. 17," Bourre said.

The company doesn't release specific employee counts, but Bourre said all Zellers have an average of 100 employees.

Managers at both the Fort Erie and Niagara Falls Zellers locations wouldn't comment Thursday afternoon, referring all questions to Bourre at HBC's head office.

Customers were disappointed to hear the news.

"There's nothing in Fort Erie," said Margareline Langlois-Bell, who is from Fort Erie, but was heading into the Niagara Falls Zellers Thursday. "It's a horrible thing. It's sad for the workers. There are no jobs anywhere."

Langlois-Bell said she has been trying to support the Canadian-owned franchise.

"Zellers is the forgotten

store. The Americans are taking over here. It's a bad thing to see."

The pharmacies at both Zellers stores have already closed.

In Niagara Falls, the pharmacy side of the business was sold to the Zehrs pharmacy at the corner of Morrison St. and Dorchester Rd. June 21. In Fort Erie, the pharmacy business was sold to Drugstore Pharmacy inside the No Frills at 1135 Thomson Rd. April 30.

Bourre said the pharmacy business was sold well before the store closings to ensure customers were never left without their prescriptions.

"Zellers Pharmacy has a legal obligation to ensure continuity of care for its customers. The transfer ensures there's never a disruption to access to prescription medication or pharmacy assistance," she said.



The Zeller's store at the County Fair Mall is scheduled to close in December.

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opinion page

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our editorial

People proud of history deserve praise from locals

Our local history is important and it's rewarding to know there are still local residents who feel this way.

We're not going to get involved in sharing opinions about the feud over banners in Ridgeway, that some local historians feel are inaccurate and offensive.

Quite frankly, they know much more about it and it's not our place to pretend.

Last weekend, a group of history lovers gathered in Crystal Beach to see a model of the S.S. Canadiana launched in Lake Erie.

So much time and hard work

went into the scaled down ship and there was so much passion for the project that day.

It's great to see people doing positive things in Fort Erie, being proud of the community they were born and raised in and still reside in today.

-Kris Dubé

Electronic bike owners have rights too, says reader

Dear Editor,

I ride a scooter in Fort Erie and have had a lot of people ask if riding on the roads is legal. I had a very distraught gentleman stop in the middle of the Garrison Road telling me what he thought of me and my scooter. Holding up traffic for what seemed an eternity, he literally screamed at me that I should be riding on the

sidewalk and not on the road. When I tried to explain to him that it was illegal for me to ride on the sidewalk, he could not, or would not believe that these scooters are legal to ride on the road.

There are strict rules and regulations in order for these scooters to operate on the roads, and I am very careful that I follow all of these regulations as I ride my scooter anywhere.

For those that do not realize that these scooters are in fact legal to ride on the roads in Fort Erie, I assure you they are.

After trying to talk to this angry individual, he then proceeded to curse and swear at me. I was getting a little hot under the collar as I listened to him ranting and raving, I politely invited him to step out of his vehicle and take his best shot.

Now I know that I prob-



Do You Remember?

Our thanks to Sheryl Cox, Sharon Hannigan, and an anonymous reader for identifying last week's campers. From left to right, the boys are: Scott Martin, Tim Hannigan (Sharon's son), Gordie, Andrew, and Greg Pirhouse. This group from the Rosedale Residence in Fort Erie was invited to spend the day at the Boy Scout's camp at Split Rock in the early 1960s. Rosedale Residence, located on Buffalo Road (where the Native Friendship Centre is now), was built by Community Living. Fort Erie in 1968 to provide a boarding home for children attending

Elsie English School. Sheryl, who worked at Rosedale with this group of boys, told us that her years there were some of her most memorable.

We would also like to thank all of the readers who contacted us about the Irvin Industries portraits from two weeks ago: Rob Lidbetter, Betty Kinsman, Bonnie Gallagher, Donna Hardcastle, Roger Pipa, Patty Mountain, and an anonymous caller. Many of these callers were at one time employed at Irvin, and were able to give us great details about the pictured personnel: Norm Mawdsley

(engineering) in the upper left, Tom Holmwood (engineering) in the upper right, Walter Bolinsky (inspection) in the bottom left, Carl Green (head of stockroom) in the bottom right, and Ruth Plumb (niece Sheryl, the "head lady") at centre. Do you recall crafting your own Centennial dress or suit back in 1967, and participating in all of the parades and festivities? Then perhaps you know the two Centennial ladies in this week's photo! If they look familiar, please call the Fort Erie Historical Museum 905-894-5322 or email museum@forterie.on.ca.

electric scooters or bikes.

With my scooter I have ridden all the way to Crystal Beach from Crescent Road, and had to turn around and meet with an acquaintance in Ridgeway.

I did all of these miles without burning any gas and was contributing to the effort of reducing pollution. And just as a footnote here, I only used about 50% of the power supplied by my batteries.

To the individual who stopped on the Garrison Road, perhaps you should look into legality of scooters and the next time you see me on my scooter, let me know and I will spend a moment to accept your apology.

Jack Babcock
Fort Erie

opinion page

Resident didn't know about cell phone tower

Dear Editor,

Around the middle of July, I was informed by my neighbour that the town had given her a notice of public information meeting regarding the application for installation of a wireless telecommunication facility by the applicant Fontur International at a Nigh Road address.

My first question to her was where is it going exactly and she pointed to the beautiful forest directly across the street from where I live.

I believe that 3 homeowners were informed. From what I understand they only have to inform residents who live within a certain radius of the proposed site. The date on the letter was July 3rd, 2012 and the meeting was set for July 31, 2012 at 6 p.m. at the Town Hall.

Lucky for me my neighbour took the time to inform all of those who live at the north end of Centralia Avenue otherwise I'm sure a few months from now we would be wondering what all the construction was in the forest.

I emailed the Bert Miller Nature Club to see if they were aware of this.

They responded to me that my concerns had been raised at the latest Environment Advisory Committee which was held at the Town Hall.

Unfortunately, they were misinformed at this meeting as to the true location of the proposed cell tower and were lead to believe that the location was at the site of the Hershey Cemetery.

They understood that it was to be erected in open space. That being said a councillor who also attended was given this same misinformation.

When I wrote again to the Bert Miller Nature Club and told them that I had the document from the town showing exactly where in the forest they planned to erect this tower they were to say the least shocked!

My neighbours and I attended the Public Information Meeting on July 31 to find out firsthand what this proposed cell tower was all about and why it was going at the location in the forest.

I raised the question of how many trees would be destroyed to erect this cell tower.

I am still waiting for a response. Trying to get a straight answer from the Town on what the zoning designation of this area was another round of misinformation.

The upshot of the meeting was basically that Fontur International is a company that locates sites for its clients who wish to erect cell towers.

SBA is the company that leases the antenna space on the towers to wireless service providers. WIND Mobile is the company that wants to put up the antenna for its customers and the Town owns the land, in this case the forest. The Town will be paid to lease the property. This short-sighted attempt to generate money is at the expense of the natural habitat that we need to steward into the future.

With the assistance of two representatives of the Bert Miller Nature Club we were able to find out that this area of forest where the proposed cell tower is to be erected is a diverse and mature woods and a safe haven for much of the wildlife that still manages to survive in our community.

In fact some of the shag-bark trees are well over 80 years as well as one fine specimen that they believe

to be over 200 years old. They agreed that the diversity of the woods makes it a very important part of the natural habitat that must be protected as each day we lose more and more to development.

Not to say all development is bad but sometimes common sense needs to play a part and you must not destroy a forest and displace wildlife - some of whom are on the species at risk watch

list when alternatives exist. These companies would have you believe that there are no alternatives but we the concerned people of Oakhill Forest have done our homework and we know better! We encourage everyone to take notice of the needless proliferation of cell towers in this Town.

Get involved. Find out what is going on in your own back yard. We are fighting for the right to

keep our forest and meadows and fields and creeks and wetlands in our neighbourhood. Everyone should do the same.

Beth Battista
Ridgeway

USA Cup Winners



Three Fort Erie residents, Rachel Athoe (first on left-bottom row), Alyssa O'Brien (second in from right-bottom row) and Jessica Minor (third in from right-top row), travelled to Blaine, MN from July 16 to 22 to compete in the annual USA Cup. Nine hundred teams from all over the world competed in this week long event. Teams come from U.S., Canada, Mexico, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Uganda, England, Norway, Sweden and Japan. The girls played four round robin matches, where the U-17 St. Catharines Jets were undefeated 17-0. Heading to the quarter and semi finals, the team won 6-1 and 1-0. The finals took place on Saturday, July 21 where St. Catharines won 2-1 over local North Metro SC.

Hot Dogs, Burgers, Pop,
Baked Goods and a Raffle
to raise funds for helmets for
this year's Skates For Kids program



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11:00am - 2:00pm

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PUBLIC NOTICES

Municipal Act, 2001

SALE OF LANDS BY PUBLIC TENDER THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF FORT ERIE

TAKE NOTICE that tenders are invited for the purchase of the land(s) described below and will be received until 3:00 p.m. local time on September 11, 2012 at the Municipal Centre, Clerk's Department, 1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie, Ontario, L2A 2S6.

The tenders will then be opened in public on the same day at The Municipal Centre, Conference Room 1 at 3:05 p.m.

Description of Land(s)	Minimum Tender Amount \$
BETHUNE AVENS, CON 1 LE PT LOT 17 IRREG 4.01AC, PIN 64201-0251(LT) ROLL NUMBER 2703 020 010 33800	\$ 3,109.80
BIDWELL PKWY ES, PLAN 129 LOT 394 REG 0.12AC 40.00FR 117.00D, PIN 64467-0214(LT) ROLL NUMBER 2703 020 010 98203	\$ 3,163.24
RICHMOND AVE ES, PLAN 140 LOT 588 NP480 REG 0.21AC 80.00FR 105.00D, PIN 64467-0087(LT) ROLL NUMBER 2703 020 019 98329	\$ 2,966.40
MAPLE AVE SS, PLAN 123 LOT 171 LOT 172 NP463 REG 0.21AC 80.00FR 117.27D, PIN 64198-0009(LT) ROLL NUMBER 2703 020 023 38500	\$ 3,333.36
GARRISON RD SS, CON 3 LE PT LOT 23 REG 1.84AC 40.00FR 200.00D, PIN 64194-0007(LT) ROLL NUMBER 2703 020 024 33600	\$ 2,839.87
LAMGTON ST NS, PLAN 148 LOT18 NP488 REG 0.81AC 95.00FR 372.00D, PIN 64238-0051(LT) ROLL NUMBER 2703 020 028 06700	\$ 4,638.88

Tenders must be submitted in the prescribed form and must be accompanied by a deposit in the form of a money order or of a bank draft or certified cheque by a bank or trust corporation payable to the municipality and representing at least 20 per cent of the tender amount.

Except as follows, the municipality makes no representation regarding the title to or any other matters relating to the land to be sold. Responsibility for ascertaining these matters rests with the potential purchaser.

This sale is governed by the Municipal Act, 2001 and the Municipal Tax Sales Rules made under that Act. The successful purchaser will be required to pay the amount tendered plus accumulated taxes and the relevant land transfer tax and HST if applicable.

The municipality has no obligation to provide vacant possession to the successful purchaser.

For further information regarding this sale and a copy of the prescribed form of tender, contact:

GILLIAN CORNEY
Manager of Revenue & Collections
1 Municipal Centre Drive
Fort Erie, Ontario, L2A 2S6
T. (905) 871-1600 ext 2305
F. (905) 871-9984
gcorney@forterie.on.ca

NOTICE OF COMPLETE APPLICATION AND PUBLIC MEETING

PLAN OF CONDOMINIUM AND ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT
3291 DOMINION ROAD
OWNER: 1788773 ONARIO LTD.

APPLICANT: DANIEL ROMANKO, QUARTEK GROUP (AGENT)

APPLICATIONS: 350309-0342 and 350308-0092

SEPTEMBER 4th, 2012, 6:00 pm, Town Hall, Council Chambers

PROPOSED CHANGE: Applications have been submitted for Draft Plan of Subdivision and Zoning By-law Amendment for the lands located at 3291 Dominion Road. The intent of the proposal is to create a draft plan of subdivision containing 34 semi-detached dwellings and 2 single detached dwellings. The subject lands consist of approximately 1.4 hectares of land located on the south side of Dominion Road between Gordon Avenue North (unopened) and Wells Avenue North.

HAVE YOUR SAY: Input on the proposed Plan of Subdivision and Zoning By-law Amendment is welcome and encouraged. You can provide input by speaking at the Public Meeting or by making a written submission to the Town. Please note that unless you do one of the above now, you may not be able to appeal the decision later.

MORE INFORMATION: For further information please contact Matt Kernaahan, Senior Development Planner at (905) 871-1600 extension 2507. A copy of the Information Report will be available to the public on August 31st, 2012. The information report will be available in the Council agenda portion of the Town's Web Site: www.town.forterie.on.ca or from the Community and Development Services Department.

WRITTEN SUBMISSION: To provide input in writing, or to request written notice of the decision of the Draft Plan of Subdivision and Zoning By-law Amendment, please send a letter c/o the Town Clerk Carolyn Kett, 1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie, Ontario, L2A 2S6

PLANNING ACT LEGAL NOTICE REQUIREMENTS: The Town of Fort Erie has not yet made a decision regarding this application.

After considering any written comments and the comments from the public meeting, a Recommendation Report will be prepared for a future Council-in-Committee meeting.

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Town of Fort Erie in respect of the proposed plan of subdivision before the approval authority gives or refuses to give approval to the draft plan of subdivision or before the By-law is passed, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision of the Town of Fort Erie to the Ontario Municipal Board.

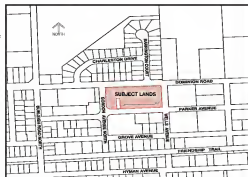
If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Town of Fort Erie in respect of the proposed plan of subdivision before the approval authority gives or refuses to give approval to the draft plan of subdivision or before the By-law is passed, the person or public body may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Ontario Municipal Board, unless in the opinion of the Board, there are reasonable grounds to do so.

If you do not attend the public meeting but wish to be notified of the adoption of the Draft Plan of Subdivision or Zoning By-law Amendment, you are required to make a written request to the Carolyn Kett, Town Clerk and such request should include the name and address to which such notice should be sent.

Dated this 11th day of August, 2012

Carolyn Kett, Town Clerk

Richard F. Brady, Director of Community and Development Services



Slow growth in home prices

Ray Spirlor
QMI Agency

The good news: Niagara's real estate market is growing.

The bad news: It's not growing fast enough.

While the average sale price for residential properties in Ontario rose by 17% between Jan. 1, 2008, and Jan. 1, 2012, the increase in Niagara was only 4%.

Larry Hummel, chief assessor for the Municipal Property Assessment Corp., said Niagara's slower growth might have something to do with its location across the Canada-U.S. border.

Windsor, another border community, didn't see an increase in its average sale price.

"There aren't as many Americans coming across the border. Visitors drive a certain element of the economy," he said.

Hummel said Niagara's manufacturing sector has also taken a hit in recent years, likely another factor in its slower real estate growth.

He said the biggest increases across the province, up to 29%, were found in northern Ontario communities.

"The price of gold and metals has escalated, which brought the mining sector to the fore."

Hummel said MPAC's Market Snapshot study didn't differentiate one Niagara municipality from another.

He said the purpose of MPAC's report was to underscore the link between home prices, set by the real estate market, and property assessment.

He said with the 4% sale price increase in Niagara, residents can expect a "modest" increase in their home assessments, as opposed to the "significant" increase expected in stronger Ontario municipalities.

palties.

MPAC will mail property assessment notices to all landowners in the province this fall. This year's assessment update will be the second in Ontario's new four-year assessment and phase-in cycle.

"Property owners should remember that an increase in assessment does not necessarily mean an increase in property taxes," said Hummel.

"It all depends on a number of factors, including the amount of revenue required by your municipality or taxing authority to deliver services."

He said there is cause for concern in Fort Erie, which has recently seen the closure of large employers such as its slots facility and DMI Industries plant, while the race track is slated for closure later this year.

"There is a big web of factors that impact the real estate market. Employment is definitely a big one. Real estate prices generally reflect what is happening in the local economy."

That said, Hummel noted the benefits of living in Niagara.

He pointed to respectable post-secondary institutions such as Brock University and Niagara College, as well as the region having one of the "nicer climates" in Canada.

MPAC analyzes sale prices of similar properties to establish the assessed value of more than four-million residential properties across the province. MPAC also assesses more than 800,000 farm, commercial, industrial and other property types across Ontario.

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Want to know more? Visit www.town.forterie.ca under Town Services, Employment Opportunities. The deadline for receiving applications is **5:00 p.m., MONDAY, AUGUST 20, 2012.**

** TAX NOTICE **

TOWN OF FORT ERIE 2012 FINAL TAXES

FOR COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL & MULTI-RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES FIRST INSTALLMENT DUE WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15, 2012

For further information regarding payment of taxes, please refer to the back of your tax bill.

Office hours: 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Monday through Friday
Finance Department, Municipal Center,
Fort Erie, Ontario

Monthly payment plans by pre-authorized bank withdrawal are available for accounts with past due taxed and current year taxes. For information contact:
Town of Fort Erie at (905) 871-1600

Gillian Corney
Manager of Revenue & Collections

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Watson Lake has a population of about 1,350 people. A six-bed hospital is opening in the community this Fall, with a lab and medical imaging capacity. The hospital will work closely with the community health centre in the interest of public health, and you will work within a supportive Yukon medical community.

If this sounds like the place for you, contact Shauna Demers at 867-667-5620 or shauna.demers@govyk.ca for further information.

Yukon
Health and Social Services



Region conducting cultural impact study

Jeff Bolichowski
OMI Agency

Niagara Region is inching closer to finding out how culture and the economy can better work together.

The Region has wrapped up the first phase of its cultural economic impact study, said program manager Terri Donia.

She said the response was good when the Region surveyed the cultural sector, and they're gearing up for workshops with various cultural groups in the fall.

"Because the cultural sector is really so hard to define, we're hoping this will help show, obviously, the economic impact of the cultural sector - the direct impact, and also the induced," Donia said.

"I think we have a quality-of-life investment, but we don't have that economic value to it."

The study will give the Region a sense of how cultural programs actu-

ally affect Niagara's economy. It'll consider such items as private enterprise, festivals, arts events, sports and spinoff businesses like restaurants.

Donia said the Region did some research before launching the study. It couldn't find any comparable studies by other jurisdictions.

Some organizations have done their own studies, she noted. But nothing has come up on the scale of what Niagara's up to.

"It's kind of a unique study, and we're hoping it will definitely help us all understand what is happening in the cultural sector."

She said dates haven't been set yet for the workshops, but she hopes to have results out of them by next March.

The \$77,000 project is being paid for out of the Region's culture plan, which has already seen one of 2012's Cultural Capitals of Canada. It shares the designation with Calgary.

And it comes with St. Catharines' breaking ground on a new performing arts centre downtown.

Donia said the Region has reached out to as broad a spectrum of cultural groups as possible.

She couldn't share any feedback from the initial surveys, though, because they were done by a third party.

West Lincoln Mayor Doug Joyner, who chairs the Region's cultural committee, said in

an e-mail the study will reveal "the most accurate and comprehensive picture we have had of culture's contributions to date."

And he said the study "will be tremendously helpful in understand-

ing the important role culture plays in Niagara's economy, which in turn will inform planning, development, training, investment and other initiatives across a number of sectors in Niagara."

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Peacock School of Dance students: Mariah Kozlowski, front left, Tianna Barnes, Claudia Wood, Katelynn Fazio, Alyssa Gooder, Sarah Johnsen, Kylee Surtel, Alicia Chisholm, Alexi Doan Alicia Kieffer, back left, Jessica Holman, Breann Feiertag, Amy Holman, Chloe Demizio, Brittany Doyle, Nicole Hancourt, Lindsay Huffman, Justine Godin.

Dancers compete in Las Vegas

Members of Peacock School of Dance's Elite Competition Team just returned from Las Vegas where they competed in the Joe Tremaine International Dance Competition.

They competed in 11 numbers in various categories of tap, jazz, ballet and musical theatre against schools from all over the US and Canada.

They won 3 firsts, 1 second and 2 thirds and all the dances received first place marks.

Three days of work shops rounded out the trip with the students taking classes from choreographers and dancers from such shows as Michael Jackson's "This is it" and "So You Think You Can Dance."

Kylee Surtel and Mariah Kozlowski were chosen as finalists in an intensive jazz and ballet audition for the Tremaine Scholarship and classes in California.

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KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

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We sincerely wish we could thank each
one personally for cards, gifts, phone
calls, visits and flowers that made our
65th Anniversary so wonderful
and to our family for making
these years so special.
God Bless All - Bob & Oliver Graham

Deaths

DUBOIS, Georgia Aitken - passed away
August 7, 2012 in Winnipeg, Manitoba.
Loving mother of Danielle and Robert.
Sister of Rosemary Sheehan (Pam), Sue
Seburn (Cam), Bruce Aitken (Elise) and
David Aitken. Predeceased by her father
Edwin Aitken.



PARRY, Desmond 'Des' - Born in
Buffalo, New York on January 31st, 1925
Des passed away peacefully in Fort Erie on
Sunday August 5th, 2012. Loving husband
of Evelyn. Sadly missed by his children
Dennis (Marlee) Parry, Sharon (Jim) Martin
and Linda (Pat) Hartley. Cherished
grandfather of Brett (Diana), Kevin, Tim
(Darrin), Jamie, Kristo, and Kim and great
grandchildren Mitchell and John. Also
survived by his step children Teresa (Bill)
Whitford and Charles (Samantha) Skinner,
his children, Christie, Tiffany, Ashley,
Brittany, Chantel and their families. Des
was retired from Canada Customs and an
active member of Royal Canadian Legion
Br #71, **BENNER FUNERAL SERVICE**
1105 Benner Ave. Fort Erie entrusted with
arrangements. The family will receive
friends on Thursday August 9th, from 10am
until time of service at 11am in the Benner
Chapel, Canon David Thomas officiating.
There will be a Legion Service at 10:30am.
Donations to the Canadian Red Cross
Society or Heart & Stroke would be
appreciated by the family. Cards available
at the funeral home or online at
www.bennerfuneralservices.com



Wishing today as we wished before
That God could have spared
you many years more.
In our heart your memory is kept.
To love, to cherish and to never forget.

Memoir Verse #16
To remember a loved one with this verse
Call 1-866-541-6757 Today

Card of thanks

The family of the late
Giovanni Gianfrancesco
wish to express our heartfelt gratitude to
the Fire, Police and Ambulance for their
quick response. A special thank you to
Marie's Catering for all the food. Thank
you to our family, friends and neighbours
for the flowers, food, Mass cards and
sympathy cards. Thank you to the
Hammond-Davidson Funeral Home and the
pallbearers. A very special thank you to
Father D. Luzzati for the wonderful service
and to Mrs. Rogala for providing the
music. Your expressions of
sympathy are all gratefully appreciated.
Franka Gianfrancesco & Family

*This day we do remember,
A loving thought we give
To ones no longer with us
But in our hearts still live*

Memoir Verse #5
To remember a loved one with this verse
Call 1-866-541-6757 Today

In memoriam

Jean Oakley
In loving memory of our dear mother who
passed away August 13, 2005.
May the winds of love blow gently,
And whisper so you can hear,
We will always love and miss you,
And wish that you were here.
We hold you close within our hearts,
And there you shall remain,
The walk with us throughout our lives,
Until we meet again.
Lovingly remembered by
Roy, Sandy & Ken.

*Down a road that's calm and peaceful,
Guided by God's loving hand,
He has gone upon a journey
To a distant, brighter land.
And although our hearts are heavy
With sorrow we still bear,
It helps to bring us comfort,
Knowing he is happy there.*

Memoir Verse #2
To remember a loved one with this verse
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needed for the government, or as involved
as arranging and paying for
all of the arrangements.
I would be happy to discuss with you all
of the options available. Whether you are
simply curious, interested in pre-arranging,
or have arrangements elsewhere and
are considering transferring them, I am
available to speak with you.

Darren Flagg

1105 Benner Rd., Fort Erie
(905) 871-0444
www.bennerfuneralservices.com

In memoriam



Kathy (Bartscher) Street

June 14, 1971 - August 12, 2011

Your presence we miss,
Your memory we treasure,
Loving you always,
Forgetting you never.

Forever in our hearts,
Mom, Glen Jr., Linda, Gary, Brad, Lori
and Families XOXO

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A Loving Tribute

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Rounding second



KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Chris Patterson rounds second base during a 4-0 loss to the visiting Welland Chiefs on Wednesday. This is the first time in weeks the Cannons have dropped out of first place with a 14-7 record. With the game 1-0 going into the sixth inning, the visitors got two insurance runs on two walks and two of their four hits in the inning. Cannons starter Cam Hall went the distance giving four hits, five walks and five strikeouts while his counterpart A.J. Murray (3-0) against Fort Erie this year gave up only three hits, three walks and stuck out two batters over seven innings. Frank Biggins, Marcus Perzul and Collin Chevalier all went one for three at the dish. The last week of the regular season has the Cannons in Thorold Tuesday vs the Fantoms, at home Wednesday against the first place Bullets Pirates, then they will close out their schedule in Niagara Falls on Friday night. First round of the playoffs will be the following week and opponent and dates have not been determined.

Trainer was confident in horse's ability

From Page 4

The second running of the Bob Summers Memorial was made up of a group of local sprinters who ran for a purse of \$30,000. The early fractions were set by Jeffery Armin who ran eye popping splits of 21.2, 43.4 and 56.1 but it was the bay Mia's Miracle who sat waiting patiently for his opportunity to pounce. Ridden by Brad Wilson, who scored his very first Cup win, the son of Orientate was able to get past the front runner and get clear to win by a length and three quarters. The final time of the race was 1:09.2.

Trained by Nathan Squires for his son Lamar, the

conditioner knew that his horse had been doing very well leading up to the race. "I'm not normally overconfident about my horses but this time I knew we ready," said the trainer.

"The grey horse (Jeffery Armin) is the fastest horses in Fort Erie but I told Brad to save ground because the race set up for a closer." Mia's Miracle returned \$21,800 to win. Jeffery Armin finished second with Big Brother Joe rounding out the top three.

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2012-2013 Registration

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1st Child	\$450⁰⁰	\$540⁰⁰
2nd Child	\$425⁰⁰	\$515⁰⁰
3rd Child	\$400⁰⁰	\$490⁰⁰

Registration is open to all players
born between January 1, 1992 and
December 31, 2008

Late prices take effect after Sept 8, 2012

There is a \$75.00 Out of Town Fee for players
not residing in the Town of Fort Erie.

Register On-Line at:
www.forteriehockey.com

Check back often for information on
season start dates and travel tryouts.

www.forteriehockey.com

